

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

53-39

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Action

Control: 2426

Rec'd: JULY 3, 1958
1:24 PMEUR
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FROM: BONN

TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 44, JULY 3, 5 PM

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SENT DEPARTMENT 44, REPEATED INFORMATION BERLIN 10, MOSCOW 7,
PARIS, LONDON UNNUMBERED.

ALSO SENT USAREUR HEIDELBERG 8 BY OTHER MEANS

FONOFF GAVE US TODAY FOLLOWING REPORT, FROM SOVIET ZONE SOURCES,
WHICH IT EVALUATES B-: #*762B.5411*

QUOTE

OCB

USIA

CIA

OSD

ARMY

NAVY

AIR

NIC

1. ACCORDING (SED) CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER, GDR GOVERN-
MENT CIRCLES WERE ASTONISHED THAT USA SO QUICKLY DECLARED ITS
READINESS TO NEGOTIATE WITH GDR ON RELEASE AMERICAN HELICOPTER
AND OCCUPANTS. IT HAD BEEN ASSUMED THAT SOVIET UNION, IN VIEW
GENERAL SITUATION, WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN PREPARED GIVE WAY IN
SEVERAL DAYS.

2. HOWEVER, AS REGARDS BERLIN AIR CORRIDORS, WHICH ARE ASSURED
BY FOUR POWER AGREEMENTS, SOVIET UNION CONTINUES ATTACH GREATEST
IMPORTANCE TO SOVIET ARMY COMMAND IN GDR RETAINING SOLE COMPET-
ENCE, ALSO IN CASES OF EMERGENCY LANDING OR "STRAYED FLIGHTS"
OVER GDR TERRITORY.

3. IT IS LEARNED FROM GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY CIRCLES THAT DEPUTY
FOREIGN MINISTER WINZER WILL NOT REPEAT NOT FOR TIME BEING RETREAT
FROM NEGOTIATING TACTICS FOLLOWED THUS FAR AND WILL FOR A WHILE
PURSUE TALKS FRUITLESSLY. IF, HOWEVER, AMERICANS MAINTAIN FIRM
POSITION AND REJECT ALL SOLUTIONS INVOLVING ANY RECOGNITION
WHATSOEVER OF GDR, LATTER CONTEMPLATES RELEASING AIRMEN BUT
RETAINING HELICOPTER.

UNQUOTE.

BRUCE

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Authority *NND 877449*
NIA NARA, Date *1/24/80*